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WASHINGTON, D. C.

W. E. BAILEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR; JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1858.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

G. BAILEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR; JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

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G. BAILEY, Washington, D. C.

For the National Era.

If the Editor of the *Era* receives the following simple stanza (called forth by the lamentation on the part of the Church of the Epiphany, Philadelphia) to induce the people of the late Rev. Dudley A. Tyng to return there worthily, he will oblige some of the members of the Church of the Covenant, as well as the writer, who prefers to see them in the *Era* rather than anywhere else.

STEADFAST.

Return to the shelter from which he was spurned;

Knock again at the bower from which he was turned;

Forget the indignities heaped on his head;

Forget the insults which you daily add;

Forget the thoughts which you daily add;

Forget the wrongs which you daily add;

The following gentlemen are accredited agents for the *Examiner*: G. W. Light, Boston, Mass.; J. A. M. Salem, Mass.; J. L. Weston, Chelmsford, Mass.; L. T. Park, Mount Union, Ohio.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1858.

JASPER.

Inducement to New Subscribers.

Owing to the unusual interest manifested by our readers in the story now in course of publication in the *Examiner*, entitled "JASPER," we have concluded, in order that all new subscribers may have the benefit of the story, to issue an "Extra" on the 1st of December, containing all the chapters published up to that time. This Extra will be sent free to all new subscribers.

WEST INDIA EMANCIPATION.

We notice many evidences of improvement in the condition of the British West Indies. The radical change in the social economy which emancipation produced, together with the depressing effect of a repeal of the sugar duties, which occurred soon after, had the temporary effect of retarding production; but we are gratified to perceive that the recuperative energies of Freedom are beginning to assert their power, and to give ground for the hope that the pecuniary advantages of Liberty will be abundantly vindicated by the emancipated blacks.

In the Island of Barbados, we see it stated that the sugar crop the present year amounts to 50,000 hogsheads; whereas, before emancipation the production never exceeded 24,000. Here, then, is a fact which the champions of Slavery may explain in the best way they can. The population of the Island is as dense as that of any part of Europe, and yet its productive capacity has increased two-fold in less than a quarter of a century.

There is another point of view in which the British West India Islands have greatly improved, which never enters into the cold calculations of selfish capitalists. We allude to the condition of the negroes themselves. There has not been a day or an hour since emancipation took place, when the condition of the negroes was not infinitely better than it was before that event. They are better off physically and morally. Before emancipation, the poor degraded creatures huddled together like the beasts of the field, and marriage, even the conventional form of it, which alone can exist under a system of Slavery, was the exception, rather than the rule. Now, legitimate marriage is the rule, and the former practice has ceased. That the former slaves were in itself the cause of that the Islands were produced, has been effected through the instrumentality of Christian missionaries. They have taught the people to read the Bible, and impressed upon their minds the obligations of religion and morality, which would not have been practicable, even if permissible, while Slavery continued.

We know that it would be in vain to urge the importance of this change upon the advocates of men who advocate the revival of the slave trade; but all men, North and South, who acknowledge the obligations of common morality and conscience, will agree with us in the estimate we have placed upon it.

The improvement in the physical condition of the negroes is marked; 50,000 of them in Jamaica have become small freshmores than the act of emancipation; and this class are beginning to gather around them many of the comforts of civilization.

Not only the West India proprietors, but the Government of Great Britain, seem to understand the social amelioration of the negroes, and to look exclusively to the tables of exports, as the criterion of success. The truth is, that the exports of a colony serve to indicate its dependence upon the mother country, rather than the happiness of the people. Before the Revolution, the exports of Virginia exceeded those of all New England, and there can be no doubt that the production of an article of prime marketable value, like tobacco, enabled the planters to live in luxury, while the farmers of the North were forced into habits of economy and self-reliance. Virginia imported luxuries in exchange for tobacco. The North had little to export, and could therefore import little. Poverty and necessity set the wits of the people to work, and the result has been independence, intellectual and moral development, and a profusion of wealth, which Virginia can never know while she retains Slavery.

The Island of Cuba makes an immense exception, because it devotes all its energies to the production of one or two articles of great value in the markets of the world. But this is done at the expense of every sort of improvement. There is no division of labor. Every article of utility or luxury is imported, and there is no trade or occupation in which the genius and intelligence of the people can develop themselves. In truth, it is the characteristic of the plantation system to look to no interest but that of the planters, and to count nothing as worthy of attention except the staple production.

The British West Indies are now free, and the interests of the people should outweigh a hundred-fold those of the handful of landed proprietors. It is not merely a blunder, but a crime, in the English Government, to encourage the introduction of more laborers from Africa or China. The Islands are already populous—many of them not behind Ireland or Belgium, in this particular; and it is a monstrous piece of wickedness to crowd more laborers into them to compete with the natives. The population of the West Indies is much too dense, unless labor should become more diversified; and humanity would dictate the colonization of South America from the Islands, instead of the importation of coolies for the purpose of reducing wages to the starving point.

THE NICARAGUAN EMIGRATION SCHEME EXPLODED.

The Secretary of the Treasury has authorized the Collector of Mobile to refuse a clearance to Walker's vessel, the *Alice Painter*, bound for Greytown. Walker cheated the Administration last year by false representations and forged papers, and now he experiences the force of the maxim, that a falsehood is "not to be believed even when he speaks the truth." He is condemned on suspicion, and his schemes frustrated.

We confess our surprise, and we doubt not that the Southern fire-eaters will share with us in it, that the author of the Ostend Manifesto should display such zeal in the suppression of filibustering schemes for the extension of Slavery. In all sincerity, we think the President deserves the praise of good citizens for this act of his administration, but we apprehend that, taken in connection with the fall of Walker last November, it is destined to bring down upon his devoted head a storm of Southern indignation. He is as unfortunate in his honest efforts to protect Nicaragua as he was in his criminal attempts to subjugate Kansas.

The truth is, that the predominant class in the South is growing wiser, conservative, or rather timid, and it is the aim of Mr. Buchanan to consult the pro-Confederate majority, rather than the handful of impractical ultraists, who in their headstrong fury would precipitate the country into serious difficulties with England and France for a doubtful acquisition. Kansas

has been rescued from the very jaws of Slavery, by a freedom-loving people, the slaveholders have lost confidence in their ability to extend their favorite institution, even with the aid of the Federal Government; and without it, we are aware that Slavery can never go an inch beyond its present limits. These considerations have much to do with the honest and praiseworthy efforts of the Administration for the suppression of filibustering. If there were no division in the path, the conscience of the Administration would not be moved by a sense of international obligations to intercept Walker in his physical form.

A NEW CHAMPION OF POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY.

The New York *Times* has taken position squarely on the Douglas platform of Popular Sovereignty, and singular as the fact may seem, the editor bases his argument in favor of the new Douglas on the Dred Scott decision! All the world had supposed that Mr. Douglas had entangled himself in a mesh of inconsistency by his unqualified endorsement of Dred Scott at Chicago, and his subsequent return to his old faith in Popular Sovereignty at Freeport and other places; but the surprise of the *Times* has made the lucky discovery that the squatter right of legislation for the territories is a corollary from the decision of the Supreme Court, which declared that neither Congress nor the people of the Territory can invest the slaveholders of his independence right.

The *Times* commented its career some seven years ago as an Anti-Slavery Whig paper, and was understood to have a particular friendship for Senator Seward. It cordially went into the Republican organization, and continued in that connection until the defeat of Fremont, when it discarded party trammels, and claimed to be "independent." In the late election it supported the Republican ticket. But since the election we are sorry to perceive unmistakably signs of a change of front.

The *Times* now thinks that Slavery has nothing to do with Federal politics, and that it is now no place in party platforms. In a word, the *Times* has the very spirit and odor of "nationality," and would make a brilliant metropolitan organ for Mr. Douglas. Its old favorite, Senator Seward, is repudiated and elbowed out of any healthy political organization, while the Illinois Senator and Gov. Hammond receive its caresses.

The following brief extracts will indicate the course which the *Times* seems to have marked out for itself:

"There is nothing surprising in the information that the extreme Southern Press does not admire Senator Seward. The *Times* has already published and reviewed in the *Times* that portion of the Island which the Islands are produced, has been effected through the instrumentality of Christian missionaries. They have taught the people to read the Bible, and impressed upon their minds the obligations of religion and morality, which would not have been practicable, even if permissible, while Slavery continued."

"We know that it would be in vain to urge the importance of this change upon the advocates of men who advocate the revival of the slave trade; but all men, North and South, who acknowledge the obligations of common morality and conscience, will agree with us in the estimate we have placed upon it.

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But we do not choose, after the pattern of the old race of Praise, God Barbones, to mix up Bible phrases with crude and clumsy imitations, whenever we advert to religious topics. If a man desire to bring certain portions of the Bible before the public, in a separate volume, let him quote the language of the Bible. If he would make a series of extracts from it, bearing on certain points, let him abide by the text. But if he would discourse on a religious theme, let him do it in strict conformity to the best style of the English language, as now recognized, and in referring to the Bible, insert whole quotations, or illustrate, by special phrases, in distinct Bible words, and not attempt to mix up, in a miserably crude, outlandish dialect, his own language with that of the Scriptures. This is what makes cant. It is not Bible language we object to, but a barbarous, repulsive imitation of it—the use of its words, in a string of commonplace or mean sentences.

Shakespeare, surely, is our oracle. We shrink from any new or improved readings, and would like to send to the pious nice people who would expurgate his text. Nobody, however, but poor, stage-stricken hacks talk and write Shakespeare on all occasions. The classical writer will adorn a paragraph with a quotation, or add point to his argument by a well-selected phrase from the great dramatist; but the man who should attempt to manufacture a Shakespearian style would dishonor the language of Shakespeare, without enabling his own.

To recur to the little book we noticed, take a few specimens. "After the death of the blessed Abel . . . Soon after Enoch went to God, another blessed child was born . . . It was to be Abraham's own child, his son, his only son, whom he loved; that blessed child whom God had given him. Abraham . . . was on his way to a mountain, when he was to offer him up, as a burnt offering to God." So the writer goes on.

Is this not a Biblical style? Pshaw! The *Times* never flattered itself into plagiarism. The story of the offering up of Isaac as told in Genesis is simple, touching, beautiful—and its meaning we always thought we could understand without any cumbersome paraphrase. See how our author thinks.

Speaking after the manner of an amateur, we verily believe that the *Times* will not, however remotely, hinge on this consumption. We regard the regular establishment of general Freedom throughout these States as a settled and determined fact, which is the *hand of destiny*, but which cannot possibly be a *hand of any particular party or faction* in any section of the country. For the editor proceeds:

"But we believe it may safely be asserted, as the natural result of our republican institutions—of the continually-increasing spread of education among our people, and the inevitable tendency of the public opinion of the world to our side, that the time is at hand when we must be free."

This is not more consistent with what immediately follows than the deduction of the right of Popular Sovereignty from the Dred Scott decision.

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From this we are to infer that the *Times* really believes that it has ever said in favor of the agitation now going on in Missouri. "Destiny" is to accomplish everything. Men can do nothing, and should fold their arms. Why should not the same policy be pursued in reference to the establishment of a Tariff of policy, which the *Times* has heretofore been an advocate of? If so, then will it not answer the purposes of Mr. Douglas, as well as the rest of us?

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